ARTICLES

to be inquired of within the Dioces

of Peterborough, at the viſitation of the Reuerend Fa-
ther in God, THOMAS by Gods permiſſion
Lord Biſhop of Peterborough, this
preſent yeare, 1608.

And preſentment to be made thereof by
the Church-wardens and Side-men, for that purpoſe lawful-
ly appointed, in viſitations, Synods, or els where, within the
Dioces aforeſaid, at any time when occaſion ſhall
be offered: with particular anſwer to
euery Article.

CAMBRIDGE
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The tenour of the Oath miniſtred

to the Churchwardens and Sworne-men.

YOu ſhall ſweare, that all fauour, hatred, malice, hope of reward or gaine, feare of diſpleaſure, and all other vnlawfull affection ſet aſide, you ſhall vpon due conſideration of theſe Articles giuen you in charge, preſent euery ſuch perſon of or within your pariſh, as hath committed any offence or fault, or made any default mentioned in any of theſe Articles, or which are vehemently ſuſpected or defamed of any ſuch offence or fault: wherein you ſhall deale vprightly, neither of malice preſenting any contrarie to truth, nor corruptly ſparing to preſent any, or to conceale the truth, hauing in this action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, and to ſuppreſſe vice: So helpe you God in Chriſt Ieſus, and by the contents of this booke.

Articles to be inquired of within the

Dioces of Peterborough. Ann. Dom. 1608.

In primis, Whether all ſuch ornaments of the Church be retained, and be in vſe as are commanded by authoritie; whether you haue a conuenient ſurpliſe, a faire Communion table, and a comely cloath for the ſame: a faire bible of the largeſt volume, the booke of common praier, and other bookes appointed by authoritie to be had. A communion cuppe of ſiluer, and a pewter ſtope potte of pewter: and whether your Church and chancell be in good repaire, and the ſeats therein decently boarded in the bottome: your parſonage and Vicarage houſes in good repaire, and your churchyard well fenced, and cleane kept: whether haue you a comely font in your Church, ſet in ſuch conuenient place, as is appointed, with a decent couer for the ſame.

2 Whether haue you a conuenient pulpit well placed within your Church, a Table of the degrees of matrimonie fixed in ſome conuenient place of the Church, the Table of the ten Commandements, and the Conſtitutions lately ſet out and eſtabliſhed by lawfull authoritie.

3 Whether haue you a regiſter booke of parchment to write in all weddings, chriſtenings, and burialls, and whether the ſame be diligently noted therein; & whether for the ſafe keeping of the ſame, and of other things belonging to the Church, you haue a conuenient and a ſure cofer with three locks and three keyes.

4 Whether you haue a ſtrong cheſt for the poore well & conueniently placed, with a lock and three keies to the ſame; and whether your Miniſter doth moue and exhort the people to beſtow their almes and charitable deuotion vpon their poore neighbours, and eſpecially at the time of the making of their wills.

5 Whether your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate be reſident, and doth continually abide vpon his cure: if not? how long is he abſent in the yeare: and whether doth he preach in your Church ſo oft as he is preſcribed by authoritie; and whether any haue preached in

your Church, or expounded the holy Scriptures, but ſuch as are lawfully licenſed thereunto in writing.

6 Whether your Curate that miniſtreth in your pariſh church or chappell, ſay morning and euening prayer vpon ſuch working daies, as is ſet forth by authoritie, and knoll a bell thereto at a conuenient time before he beginne, that ſuch as be diſpoſed may come to learne Gods word and pray with him.

7 Whether your Parſon, or Vicar in his abſence, doe leaue his Cure to an honeſt, learned, and godly Curate, and whether they doe read the Conſtitutions lately ſet forth, ſo oft as is commaunded by authoritie; and whether vpon euery Sunday and holy day in the yeare, they doe inſtruct all the youth of the pariſh for halfe an houre at the leaſt before euening praier, in the tenne Commandements, the Articles of the beleefe, and in the Lords praier, and diligently examine them, teaching the Catechiſme ſet forth in the booke of Common prayer.

8 Whether your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate doth euery Sunday and holy day, in reading of diuine ſeruice, miniſtring of the communion, chriſtening of children, burying of the dead, or marying, weare the ſurpliſſe, and if he be a graduate, his hood or tippet, according as is appointed by the late Canons and conſtitutions, and how often hath your Parſon, vicar, or curate omitted the ſame vpon the ſaid Sundaies and holy daies ſince the ſetting forth and publication of the ſaid Conſtitutions.

9 Whether your Parſon, vicar, or Curate, doe in reading diuine ſeruice, adminiſtring the Communion, chriſtenings, burialls, mariages, and ſuch like, daily obſerue the order preſcribed in the booke of common prayer, and the ceremonies therein contained, as namely the croſſe in baptiſme, the ring in mariage, and ſuch like.

10 Whether common praier be vſed and ſaid by your Miniſter in your Church or Chappell diſtinctly, and reuerently, and the Sacraments adminiſtred in ſuch order as is ſet forth by the lawes of this Realme, and none otherwiſe, and at due and conuenient houres; and whether your Miniſter ſtand in ſuch conuenient place as the people may beſt heare him; and whether vpon wedneſdaies and fridaies the Letanie and other praiers appointed for the day be ſaide accordingly.

11 Whether your Miniſter doth preach, declare, or ſpeake any thing in deprauing of the booke of common prayer, or any thing therein contained; and whether they doe not in their Sermons and other exerciſes pray for the Kings moſt excellent Maieſtie, giuing his Maieſtie his due title, and for our gratious Queene Anne, the noble Prince Henrie, and the reſt of the King and Queenes royall iſſue, according to the order preſcribed in the ſaid Conſtitutions.

12 Whether your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, beeing vnmaried, keepeth in his houſe any defamed or ſuſpected woman of any incontinencie, and if he doe? you ſhall preſent the ſame.

13 Whether your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, be a hauker, hunter, carder, dicer, ſwearer, or vſeth to reſort to any alehouſe, Tavernes, or to any ſuſpected places, not beſeeming his place and calling, or doe giue any ill example of life, whereby the word of God, and the religion now receiued, may be euill ſpoken of.

14 Whether your Curate be admitted to ſerue the cure, without licenſe thereunto in writing: and whether your Miniſter hath receiued any excommunicate perſon into the Church, before he brought vnto him a true certificate of his abſolution and reſtoring to the Church.

15 Whether your Miniſter haue receiued any woman deliuered of child begot in fornication or adulterie to her thākſgiuing in your Church, before ſhee haue publikely reconciled her ſelfe in ſuch order, as by the officer in that behalfe hath beene to her preſcribed.

16 Whether your Miniſter haue admitted to the holy Communion any open and notorious fornicatour, adulterer, or euill liuer, by whome the Congregation is offended, without due penance firſt done, or any enuious and malitious perſons out of charitie, before they haue openly reconciled themſelues.

17 Whether your Miniſter haue admitted any excommunicate perſon to anſwer as Godfather or Godmother at the chriſtening of a child, or any that haue not before receiued the holy Communion, and is not able to recite the Lords praier, the ten commandements, and the articles of beleefe, & to anſwer to the ſame beeing required.

18 Whether any in your pariſh haue by open ſpeech, or otherwiſe, moleſted or interrupted your Miniſter in time of diuine prayers, adminiſtration of the Sacraments, preaching, or in the time of

Catechizing, or at any other time vſed any reuiling or vnſeemely ſpeeches againſt him, or haue ayded, incouraged, or ſet on any ſo to doe, and what be their names.

19 Whether any perſon, neglecting their owne pariſh Church, doe reſort to any other pariſh Church in time of common prayer or preaching: And whether the Churchwardens denownce them to the Ordinarie, according as is commanded by authoritie.

20 Whether Inholders, or Alehouſekeepers, doe vſe to ſell any meate or drinke in time of common prayer, preaching, or reading of the Scriptures.

21 Whether there be any in your pariſh which doe not keepe holy the Sabboth day as is commanded, any that vſe anie paſtime or gaming abroad, or in their houſes, or worke or labour vpon the Sabboth day or holy day, (except on the holy day not beeing the Sabboth day in haruеſt time after dinner vpon neceſſitie) or any that ſit in the ſtreetes, Alehouſe, Tauerne, or Churchyard in time of diuine prayers or preaching, and what be their names.

22 Whether there be any in your pariſh that be ſuſpected to be reconciled to the Pope his religion, any maſſing Preiſts, Ieſuits, Seminaries, or other, which haue receiued authoritie from the Romiſh Church; and what be their names.

23 Whether you know any Papiſts or Recuſants within your pariſh, any that goe about to depraue the religion now eſtabliſhed, any that maintaine hereſies, vſe inchantments, witchcrafts, ſorceries, or ſuch like, and what be their names.

24 Whether all in your pariſh which be of ſufficient yeares and diſcretion, doe receiue the holy Communion kneeling, thriſe in the yeare at the leaſt, whereof Eaſter to be one, and who they be that haue not ſo done.

25 Whether there be any in your pariſh that haue maried within the degrees forbidden, any beeing maried that haue left their wiues, any man that hath two wiues, any woman that hath two husbands, any that deferre the ſolemnization of matrimonie lawfully contracted, any that doe hinder the ſame, any that haue contracted themſelues without the conſent of their parents, tutors, or gouerners, or any which haue beene maried without ſolemne publiſhing of the banes, and who they be.

26 Whether there be any phyſitians or Surgeons practiſe phyſicke or ſurgerie within your pariſh, that is not thereto licenſed by the L. Biſhop of the Dioces.

27 Whether any of your Churchwardens doe denie, or delay to giue vp an account of the Church goods that they haue had in their hands, or detaine any of the Church goods or common ſtocke; and whether the pariſh clarke be appointed according to the cuſtome of the pariſh, and whether is he diligent to the Miniſter, and keepeth all bookes and other things belonging to the Church in good order, and is a ſufficient man to read diſtinctly, and to anſwer as is appointed him.

28 Whether there be any Vſurers in your pariſh that directly or indirectly doe take any vſurie for their money contrarie to the law.

29 Whether any appointed Executors in the laſt wil of any man deceaſed, doe preſume to deale with the goods of the deceaſed, before the wil be prooued, or any that preſume to adminiſter vpon the goods of any man deceaſed, before the adminiſtration be committed vnto them, or hinderers of the performance of thoſe wills, any forgers or changers of wills, or any Executor that hath not performed the teſtators will, eſpecially in not paying legacies giuen to God and godly vſes.

30 Whether any perſon or perſons, bodie politique or corporate, keepe or maintaine any Schoolemaſter, which ſhall not repaire to Church, or be allowed by the Biſhop or Ordinarie of the Dioces, where ſuch Schoolemaſter ſhall be ſo kept, and whether the ſaide Schoolemſtaer be a learned, honeſt, religious, and ſober man, and lawfully licenſed to teach ſchoole in your pariſh.

31 Whether any in your pariſh haue beene maried in any priuate houſe or chamber, or other ſecret place, or at any vnlawfull time or place, who maried them, who were the parties that were ſo maried, & who were preſent at the mariage, expreſſing their names and ſurnames.

32 Whether the perambulation of the circuit of your pariſh once in the yeare at the time accuſtomed be retained and vſed, and whether at their returne to the Church, they make their common prayers.

33 Whether you know or haue heard by common fame, of any that

that liue vitiously in fornication, adulterie, incest, drunkennes, or vncleannes, bawdes, ribawdes, harlots, maintainers or receiuers of any such leud persons, or any which carie, send away, or conuay such parties before they be punished, or vehemently suspected of any such fault.

34 Whether you know or haue heard by common fame, of any woman which hath been got with child, or liued incontinently before shee was maried, who hath not as yet satisfied the congregation, and what be their names.

35 Whether there be any which fight, chide, or brawle in Church or churchyard, and what be their names.

36 Whether any midwiues doe vse to baptize children within your parish, and what be their names.

37 Whether you know or haue heard by publique fame, of any other crime worthie to be presented, the reformation whereof belongeth to the spirituall Iurisdiction, And if you doe, you shall as well present them that nowe come to your memorie, as those that shall hereafter come to your knowledge.

Finally, that the Churchwardens and Sworne-men for the more speedie and due reformation of things amisse in this Dioceese of Peterborough, shall twise in a yeare according to the said Constitutions lately established, that is to say, at the feast of S. Iohn Baptist, and the feast of the Natiuitie of our Lord and Sauiour Iesus Christ, exhibit their presentments of such offences as are repugnant to the lawes, Articles, Constitutions, and Canons Ecclesiasticall of this Realme, to the Ordinarie or to the next Officer vnder him, That so due reformation may be made for the same accordingly.

FINIS.

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